

CLAIMS

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1. A method comprising:
issuing a plurality of instructions to a requesting computer to render content,
the plurality of instructions including at least a subset which are interpreted to render
an iconic selector associated with a service, wherein user selection of the iconic
selector generates a request to download, subscribe to, index and/or print content from
the service; and
fulfilling request(s) without requiring further input from the user.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein fulfilling the request(s) is
automatically performed without modifying the rendered web-page.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein generating the request
comprises:
determining whether the requesting computer is populated with a content
handler; and
downloading the content handler to the requesting computer for installation if
the requesting computer is not populated with the content handler.
4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the installation of the
downloaded content handler is automatically performed.
5. A method according to claim 3, wherein the installation of the
downloaded content handler is manually performed upon download of the content
handler.
6. A method according to claim 3, wherein the content handler identifies
user selection of the selector and generates the request to subscribe to, index and/or
print the associated service and/or content.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the iconic selector includes a network address associated with the requested content.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein fulfilling the request comprises:
determining whether the requesting computer is populated with a content handler; and
downloading a content handler to the requesting computer for installation if it is not yet installed.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein the content handler is automatically installed on the requesting computer upon download.

10. A method according to claim 7, wherein fulfilling the request comprises:
issuing a command to the content handler on the requesting computer, wherein the command includes the network address of the content and an action designator.

11. A method according to claim 10, wherein compliance with the issued command by the content handler automatically indexes, prints, downloads or subscribes the user to the content.

12. A method according to claim 10, wherein the action designator denotes one or more of a subscribe action, an index action, a download action and/or a print action.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein the network address of the content is not displayed to the user.

14. A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions including at least a subset of which that, when executed, implement a method according to claim 1.

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15. A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions which, when executed by a requesting computer, causes the computer to render a web page, the web page including one or more iconic selector(s) which, when selected by a user, automatically downloads, prints, indexes and/or subscribes the user to content denoted by a network address embedded within instructions to implement the selector(s) without requiring further input from the user.

16. A content handler comprising:
an automated print function, to access and print content from a content provider denoted by a network address in a received request;
an index/subscribe function, to add the content and/or network address of the content to an index of content and/or schedule periodic delivery of the content from the content provider denoted by the network address; and
a controller, communicatively coupled to the print function and the subscribe/index function, to receive the request and selectively invoke one or more of the print function and/or the index/subscribe function based, at least in part, on content of an action designator within the received request.

17. A content handler according to claim 16, wherein the index/subscribe function is remotely located from the controller and/or the automated print function.

18. A content handler according to claim 16, further comprising:
an index of content, wherein the index/subscribe function automatically adds
the content and/or network address of the content to the index upon receipt of a
request including an index action designator.

19. A content handler according to claim 16, wherein the index is maintained in a remote server communicatively coupled to the content handler.

20. A content handler according to claim 16, wherein the print function is selectively invoked by controller in response to a received request including a print action designator.

5 21. A content handler according to claim 16, wherein the index/subscribe function is selectively invoked to subscribe a user for content delivery in response to a received request including a subscribe action designator.

10 22. A content handler according to claim 21, wherein the content and/or network address denoted in the received request is added to a delivery schedule.

23. A content handler according to claim 22, wherein the delivery schedule is maintained within the content handler.

15 24. A content handler according to claim 22, wherein the delivery schedule is maintained at a remote server.

20 25. A content handler according to claim 16, wherein the received request is generated by a remote server in response to user selection of one or more iconic selector(s) embedded within content received by the user via one or more of a web page, an email, and the like.

25 26. A content handler according to claim 25, wherein the iconic selector includes the network address associated with the content and an action designator.

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